

**Amendments to the Specification:**

After the title but before the first paragraph, please insert the following new paragraph:

**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a 371 filing of PCT International application no. PCT/IL2003/000787 filed September 30, 2003 and published in English as WO 04/029095 on April 8, 2004 which claims the priority of Israeli application no. 152030 filed September 30, 2002, the disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

On a separate page, page 33, please insert the following abstract:

**COHESIVE COPRECIPITATES OF SULFATED POLYSACCHARIDE AND  
FIBRILLAR PROTEIN AND USE THEREOF****ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention concerns cohesive biopolymer gels comprising coprecipitates of sulfated polysaccharides and fibrillar proteins, exemplified by coprecipitates of dextran sulfate and gelatin, useful for clinical applications including as implants for tissue engineering as well as in biotechnology. The cohesive biopolymer gels according to the present invention may be used clinically either *per se* or as a scaffold for a cell-bearing implant, as a depot for sustained release of bioactive agents, or for research and biotechnology.